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District hosts hearing held on Providence River Maintenance Dredging EIS

A public hearing to gather comments and concerns for a metropolitan dredging project was held by the New England District at the University of Rhode Island, Nov. 28.

Over 70 people attended the hearing for the Providence River Dredging Project's Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

The \$91 million dollar project limits

extend from Fox Point to just north of Prudence Island. The majority of the dredging will take place in the Upper River. Work in the Providence River and Harbor involves removing over four million cubic yards of material from the channel to restore authorized dimensions.

The proposed plan includes placing 1.1 million cubic yards of unsuitable

material in an in-channel confined aquatic Disposal (CAD) cell. The federal project has not been dredged since 1976.

A Notice of Intent to prepare a Draft EIS for the project was published in the Federal Register in April 1994. The Draft EIS was published in August 1998.

Continued on page 3

DE cloaks WTC Team with pride

Col. Brian E. Osterndorf, District Engineer, awarded specially designed red emergency management jackets to employees who either deployed to New York or those who made extra efforts during the World Trade Center disaster.



Yankee Voices

Gary Rogowski
Construction/Operations



Finding a mentor

Mentors can be great career boosters. "Everyone does better when they have support, have a sounding board, and are held accountable for reaching the goals they set out to achieve," says Keith Rosen, ProfitBuildings.com president, a life and business coaching organization in New York City.

Who can be your mentor?

- An experienced co-worker (either in your department or from a related one).
- Someone in your industry's association.
- Someone from an Internet mentoring service.
- Someone from your church.
- A favorite professor.

(Ideas Unlimited)

Words worth repeating

The best preparation for tomorrow is to do today's work superbly well.

- Sir William Osler

Congratulations

...to **John Asseng**, Otter Brook/Surry Mountain Lakes, and his wife, **Karin**, on the birth of their child.

...to **Tricia Sumner**, Chief, Safety Office, and her husband, **Chris Colson**, on the birth of their child.

...to **Erik Matthews**, Engineering/Planning, and his wife, **Susan Reardon**, on the birth of their child.

...to **Will Rogers**, Con/Ops and **Terry Chase**, Merrimack River Basin Manager, who were selected as the WE Committee's Team of the Month for December. Will and Terry represented New England District in the planning and management of the NAD Park Ranger Conference held at West Point, N.Y., in November.

...to **Lt. Col. John Rovero**, Deputy District Engineer for his selection as the WE Committee's December Employee of the Month. LTC Rovero provided tremendous support to the operations in the EOC as Acting District Commander while Col. Osterndorf was in New York City.

...The following people each received an award by the Joint Program Office for their work on the water supply project for the Massachusetts Military Reservation: **Ray Cottengaim, Mike DeGrazia, Darrell Deleppo, Frank Fedele, Rob Foti, Sue Holtham, Marc Paiva, Joe McInerney, and Heather Sullivan**. The awards were presented during the October Town Meeting hosted by Col. Osterndorf, District Engineer.

Sympathy

...to the family of Corps of Engineers retiree **Richard "Mac" Macomber**, who passed away Dec. 1. Mr. Macomber joined the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers stationed in Boston and later in Washington, D.C., serving as an environmental planner and later becoming environmental chief for the Board of Engineers for Rivers and Harbors. He became chief scientist at the Corps' Environmental Testing Laboratory at Chincoteague, Va., training for his final duty assignment as chief of staff of the Army Corps of Engineers for Rivers and Harbors. During this time, Mac achieved the rank of GM-15 C/S (M) and was COE of the BERH.

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Commander's Corner:

Holiday wishes from the District Engineer

by Col. Brian E. Osterndorf
District Engineer



The holiday season is a time of family and friends, of caring and giving, and of peace on earth and goodwill towards everyone.

The New England District has had a challenging year and has met every obstacle head-on – and with great success. The District family should be proud of all the accomplishments achieved in 2001,

and should now focus on the new challenges 2002 will bring. Throughout the year, this District team showed its

generosity and family spirit to those in need. The District family rallied to the call for help from New York during the World Trade Center tragedy.

This District's assistance during this disaster certainly was an example of the Corps' capability, responsiveness, professionalism, compassion, and service to the Nation and I salute your efforts.

The holiday season is also a time to reflect over the past and to start thinking about the future. This past year has been one of opportunity and a host of other challenges. But regardless of the challenges, you responded to the call. I'm not only proud to be part of this great organization but also extremely proud of your contributions, sacrifices and successes.

As the New Year approaches, I would like to extend my gratitude for a job well done and wish the District family and their families a safe, happy and healthy holiday season.

Providence River Dredging EIS hearing

Continued from page 1

The EIS was prepared in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969. It describes compliance with all federal and state environmental regulations, laws, and executive orders.

The Corps received approximately 300 letters in response to the Draft EIS. As a result of the issues raised in those letters, the Corps conducted a series of studies that included current measurements, dredging modeling, lobster sampling, shellfish sampling, economic impacts to fisheries study and an environmental windows analysis. In addition, potential disposal sites for the material had been reduced from the 160 sites in the Draft EIS to 14.

According to Ed O'Donnell, Project Manager, the Corps has done extensive studies, which have resulted in the Final EIS. "In the entire EIS process we've investigated over 160 different disposal sites and looked at various ways of dealing with dredged material," he said. "We believe we've come up with a reasonable plan to deal with the dredged material without creating significant adverse environmental impacts."

The effects of dredging and disposal could include the temporary increased suspended solids and dissolved and particulate contaminants, burial of aquatic resources and economic impacts on the fishing industry. The Corps is proposing to sequence the work so that sensitive areas will be avoided at specific times of the year. But the possible effects of the dredging have some fishermen

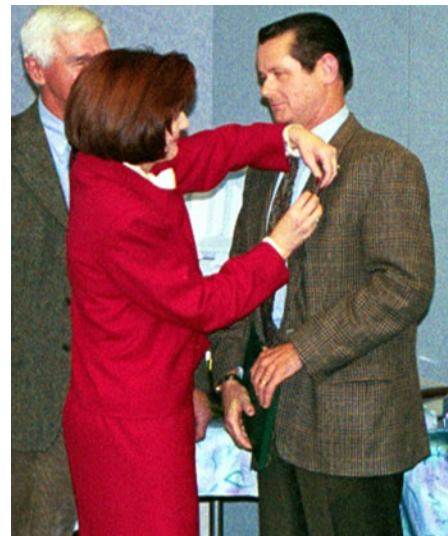
concerned. "During the last ten years, fin fishermen in southern New England have struggled due to constraints of vastly reduced 'days at sea' in the ground fishery to low quotas in the fluke and scup fisheries all under the guise of protecting our resources," said Kenneth Ketchum, President of the Rhode Island Commercial Fisheries Association. "Now we are in a position to begin to reap the rewards of our collective efforts and the drafters of this EIS dated August 2001 would have us believe that there would be little consequence to whatever happens at the proposed site 69b."

There are others who support the project and want the dredging to happen as soon as possible. "To further delay this long overdue project will result in even greater restrictions for shipping that delivers to our state gasoline, heating oil, diesel building supplies and other products," said Terrance S. Martiesian, State Director of the National Federation of Independent Business.

The comment period for the document ended Nov. 28. Questions and concerns raised by the FEIS will be addressed in the Record of Decision (ROD), scheduled to be issued in January. The ROD will constitute the Corps of Engineers final decision based on information contained in the FEIS and comments received during the review process. According to Ed, assuming there is sufficient funding and that Rhode Island will provide the cost share monies of about \$8 million, work could begin as early as November 2002.



(from left) Dick Carlson and Andy Andrelunias present Carl Boutilier with his plaque. Also present was Jim Wong.



photos by Brian Murphy

Clara fastens Carl's retirement pin.

Carl Boutilier retires from District with 34 years of service

A retirement reception was held for Carl Boutilier, Chief of Navigation, Nov. 20 in the cafeteria. Carl retired with over 34 years of service.

Bobby Byrne, Programs, served as Master of Ceremonies. He welcomed the crowd of over 100 co-workers and retirees and introduced Carl's wife, Clara.

Bobby said that at most retirement parties, it is customary to discuss the employee's career. "Carl's is kind of easy to cover in the sense that over the years he's been working in Navigation for his entire career," said Bobby. "If you talk about navigation or if you ask a question about navigation the first name that comes to mind, since I've been here, is Carl Boutilier."

Carl, according to Bobby, joined the Corps in New England in 1969 as an intern. Shortly after that he was assigned to Navigation Section and remained there throughout his career.

Bobby said that in many of his early performance appraisals in the 1970s in the area of self-development, Carl consistently had as a focus for development public speaking and computer training. He said that when Carl became chief of the Navigation

Section the public speaking goal went away, but computer training never did.

Over the years, Carl has received many commendations from various federal, state, and local agencies, and commanders praising his knowledge, dedication, and his hard work in getting the job done.

Carl received a Commanders Award for Civilian Service in 1995. In addition, the District reorganized, and Con/Ops created the Technical Services Branch, of which Carl became chief. The District is reorganizing again and Technical Services has moved to

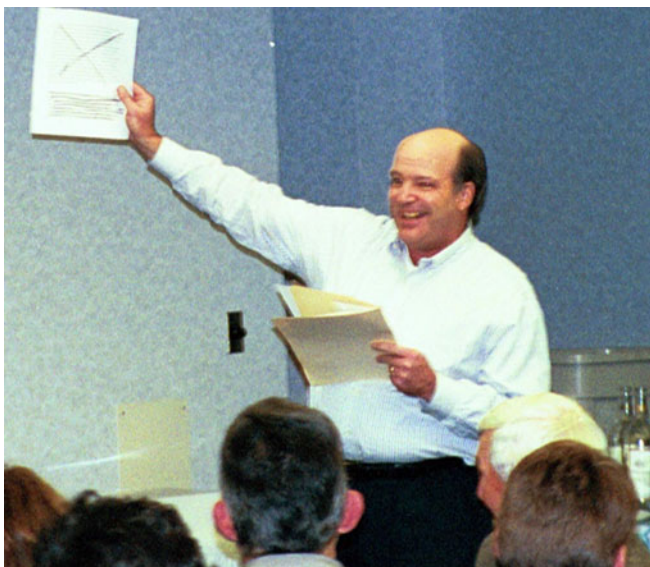
Programs/Project Management. "He's retiring before we can move him again," said Bobby.

Brian Valiton, Regulatory, was the first speaker. He said that since the time he joined Regulatory, his office and Navigation had a lot of interaction with each other. "I found Navigation to be an excellent source of information and was the 'go to place' for old stuff, new stuff, anything you needed. Things were organized."

Brian said that Carl knows everything that needs to be known about the New England harbors. "He built an enormous reputation for the Corps, not only within the organization, but with the users in many of these harbors."

Thames River Basin Manager Robert Hanacek was next to say a few words about Carl. Bob said that Carl has been an ad hoc member of board of operations managers since its conception. "Over the years he has helped us out a great deal," he said.

Bob said that Carl is a fan of stock car racing and said that Thames River Basin is known for racing — rubber duck racing. Bob presented



Ed shows the audience Carl's "edits" of Ed's remarks for the reception.



Attendees sign Carl's giant retirement card.

Carl with a retired certified yellow rubber ducky. "Thousands of these ducks try to make their way to the sea," he explained. "This one made it as far as the log boom."

Howard McVey, Northeast Marine Pilots, has known Carl for 14 years. "Carl is very intense, he's production orientated, he likes to get the job done and done properly," he said.

A story about a sunken sailboat that Mr. McVey told stood testament to Carl's thoroughness. "He had me in my office looking out at the crane as they're pulling the sailboat out giving him updates."

Ed O'Donnell, said that in his many

years in Navigation, Carl has worked on many projects, both successful and not quite so successful. Ed talked about Wells Harbor—one of Carl's not so successful projects. Going through the project file, Ed said that he found a memorandum that indicated Carl thought the project was not a good idea.

Ed said that Carl was frequently busy during the day and often left work with quite a bit of work to do at home. He told a story of a new employee who was pleased to find his new boss in jeans and a flannel shirt driving a motorcycle. "He was chagrined to find out that Carl was on annual leave and just coming in to pick up a few things to

work on," he said.

Ed presented Carl with a gift certificate for an auto parts store to help with his racing hobby.

Current Chief of Construction/Operations Dick Carlson told a story of a field trip in Maine with Carl and Fran Donovan. "We arrived at this really small motel at 12:45 a.m. and we saw the lights on in the kitchen of the house," said Dick. "Carl wrapped on the window. The people were playing cards. They came over and pulled the curtain back and the lady said, 'oh, it's just Carl.'"

Dick invited former Operations Chiefs Jim Wong and Andy Andrelunias to join him in retiring Carl. Carl's wife, Clara, fastened his retirement pin while Dick read the citation signed by Col. Osterndorf, District Engineer. Dick also presented Carl with a Bunker Hill plaque.

As is customary, Carl concluded the retirement reception with a few words. He thanked the speakers for their words and thanked the audience for coming to see him off.

"I consider it a pleasure to have spent an entire career working in one very narrow-seeming specialty," he said. "I have found the work not only interesting and challenging but so plentiful that I have never come close to being bored."

He said his models for being a dedicated employee were Dick Reardon, Andy Andrelunias, and Jim Wong. All were present at his reception.

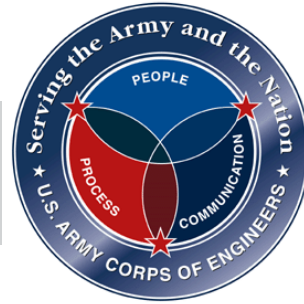
"A good measure of someone's satisfaction at the end of a long career and in particular one spent in one organization, is in the answer to the question, 'if you had to do all over again, would you make the same choices?' I would in a heartbeat. I have thoroughly enjoyed the time that I spent here."

Other retirees who attended Carl's reception were Jack Caffrey, Ray Francisco, Bill Kavanaugh, Sr., Andy Lamborghini, Paul Pronovost, Ellie Russo, and Wally St. John.



Bob Hanacek presents Carl with a certified retired racing rubber ducky.

30 Second Commercials



Ed Mills, Engineering/Planning

Hello, my name is Ed Mills.

I am a Civil Engineering Technician in the Engineering/Planning Division, Design Branch, Civil Engineering Section.



My responsibilities include managing and performing work required for preparing reports, engineering appendices, and plans and specifications for civil engineering features on construction projects. These projects include navigation, flood control, multipurpose civil works as well as military construction and mobilization projects. I have also responded to the New England District Emergency Operations Center's requests for disaster assistance, working as a quality assurance representative, per-

forming structural assessments, designing sites for temporary classrooms and assigned to the national guard as liaison for the Corps. I have responded to disasters with the District's Water Planning and Response Team as a mission specialist. Recovery missions include hurricanes, earthquakes, floods, blizzards, and most recently terrorism.

I've been selected for the District's Swift Builder Field Force Engineering Team, as CADD Operator, and received extensive training in Base Camp development. Currently, I am assigned to a team dedicated to the force protection efforts for New England District Operations. It has been rewarding, and I feel privileged to have the opportunity to work in an organization that contributes so extensively to the needs of my community, our nation and indeed the world.

I hope this joyous season finds you and yours well and happy!

Viola Bramel, West Hill Dam (Construction/Operations)

Wow! My very first impression of the Corps when I came here 10 years ago was I had found such a multi-faceted organization. From working during flood events to managing resources I was constantly acquiring new skills or challenging existing skills. I could live my childhood dream of being a Park Ranger. My first week with the Corps was during Hurricane Bob. You went home tired, but knew you made a difference.



As a Park Ranger, my primary duties are flood control, recreation and resource management. Basically year-round I gather weather data and am ready to operate the dam or patrol on foot or by vehicle in our reservoir area, especially during flood events. In the field we are the eyes and ears for the Reservoir Regulation Team.

I enjoy all aspects of my job and I am never bored. However, I enjoy most studying about plants and animals and their relations to habitats and influences. Protecting these

plants and animals and understanding their habitat needs, reproduction, etc., is exciting.

Recruiting volunteer park hosts and keeping a 750 acre recreational area with swimming beaches, hiking trails, shelters, a volleyball court, parking areas and natural habitats operational has to be my favorite part of my job. I love working with people and meeting the public. Recruiting volunteers, training and supervising them and working together with everyone as a team to keep this great park open is a highlight of being a Park Ranger.

My favorite moments are with people and animals, especially in the outdoors. When a Junior Ranger or other visitor makes a connection with one of our resources and you witness their sense of wonder and stewardship, there is no greater reward. I love researching, designing and most of all sharing programs, hikes, slide shows and the Junior Ranger Program with the public I serve. Leading people to explore the natural world we share, how we're connected and gaining their support to protect and preserve it are the highlights of being a Park Ranger. I don't even mind paperwork or filing Reports, there is satisfaction in a job well done.

How about you? The Yankee Engineer is seeking District employees to provide their 30 second commercials for publication in future issues. The Chief of Engineers has asked every Corps employee to develop 30 seconds worth of information that describes your role and how you provide quality service to the citizens of New England. If you have your commercial ready and would like to participate, please e-mail Ann Marie Harvie.

Division Engineer presents awards during ceremony at Concord Park

Brig. Gen. Stephen Rhoades, North Atlantic Division Commander, honored three District employees during a visit to Concord Park on Nov. 20.

Peter Hugh, Maryellen Iorio, and Laurie Suda received recognition during a ceremony in the Gridley Conference Room.

Peter Hugh, Engineering/Planning received the NATO Medal of Service for his work in relation to NATO Operations in Kosovo from Nov. 11 to Dec. 23, 1999. Peter was the chief of the Construction Management Section which oversaw all the design and construction activities being performed by the Combat Engineers.

"We are an organization that goes to its work," explained Brig. Gen. Rhoades. "Kosovo is not the end of the Earth, but you can sure see it from there. Peter was willing to go, and he made a major contribution."

Brig. Gen. Rhoades said that Peter worked with the 82nd Engineer Battalion of the 1st Infantry Division that had been commanded both by Brig. Gen. Rhoades and by Col. Osterndorf at one



Peter Hugh

time.

In addition to the medal, Peter received a plaque from NATO. He also received the Armed Forces Civilian Services Medal. "Kosovo is still a dangerous place," said Brig. Gen. Rhoades. "I appreciate very much the sacrifices Peter made."

"In addition to the honor of having a general present me with the medals, I was most pleased to be given a copy of a Corps of Engineers publication which documented the Corps support to the military mission in Kosovo," said Peter. "It brought back many memories of the projects I worked on and fellow Corps employees I served with. It was an honor to be a member of the Corps Kosovo Team."

Maryellen Iorio, Project Management and Laurie Suda, Regulatory, received certificates of completion for the CP-18 Leadership Development Program. According to the certificates they received, the two engineers demonstrated diligence and excellence in fulfilling the three main requirements: classroom training, mentoring with a senior agency manager, and complet-

ing a developmental assignment outside their geographical area.

Maryellen said that she got a great deal out of the program. "In general, I gained self-confidence. I also have a better understanding of myself and others," she said. "I'm more appreciative of people and their uniqueness. I understand how to lead diverse teams and get individuals to work effectively together."

"These programs have given me insight and a critical judgment on my own leadership and management attitudes and skills and those of others," said Laurie Suda, the second recipient of the CP-18 Leadership Development Program certificate. "This experience has helped with interactions between customers and fellow professionals."

Maryellen believes that the course will help her in the future. "I am optimistic that there are plenty of opportunities for advancement within our organization," she said. "The experience and training I've received should enhance my ability to compete for positions and succeed as a leader."



Maryellen Iorio

Photos by Mark McInerney



Laurie Suda

Dredging up the past . . .



New England District personnel, both from the headquarters and the field, participated in an annual Operations conference. This conference was held some time in the 1980s. Do you see anyone that you know?

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